

An Unconfirmed Report of the Crab-eater Seal on the South Coast.—At Cheyne Beach in 1959 Mr. Jaek Westerberg, a local fisherman, described to me a strange seal he saw in October 1958. It was the largest he had ever seen, longer and more slender than the resident species (*Neophoca cinerea*), with large eyes and short pointed muzzle, and wholly pale in coloration. It first appeared on Cheyne Beach where it remained for a day or two. A little later it was seen on the small beach south of Lookout Point, then it disappeared for good.

Mr. Westerberg's description fits only the Crab-eater Seal (*Lobodon carcinophaga*), an Antarctic species that wanders rarely to the coasts of New Zealand and south-eastern Australia.

—G. M. STORR, Nedlands.

Silvereyes Feeding on Kangaroo Paws.—On January 3, 1961, while camping near Bayonet Head, Albany, I noticed that a number of the petals of the flowers of the Tree Kangaroo Paw (*Anigozanthos flavida*) had been slit open, apparently by attacks of birds. While watching a clump of flowers I saw a flock of Silvereyes (*Zosterops australasiae*) feeding. The birds in obtaining the nectar make a cut just below the outer edge of the petal, then slit this down to the nectaries.

Clearly this method of feeding, so unlike that of the honey-eaters, is disadvantageous to the plant. It is interesting to speculate what effect this process of obtaining nectar by means of a short cut would have on the amount of seed set by the plant. Also if the birds were in large numbers whether it would have any long term significance on the biological success of the plant species.

—V. N. SERVENTY, Wembley Downs.

True Identity of a "Lost" Species, *Caladenia drummondii* Benth.—For many years the true identity of *Caladenia drummondii* Benth. has been a puzzle to Australian orchidologists. In 1960 I was able to examine Drummond's type collection at the Kew Herbarium, and solve the mystery. Bentham's species proved to be that which was given the name *Caladenia glossodiphylla* Rupp and Erikson (in *W.A. Nat.*, 4(3), 1953: 65) in the belief that it was a previously undescribed species. When considering differences between the Rupp-Erikson description and the original Bentham description the discrepancies, when checked with material, are to be found in the latter work. However Bentham can be excused for the indefinitude and inaccuracy of some points in his description in the light of the fact that he had only two small pressed specimens on which to base it. Of the labellum, Bentham's description states, rather indefinitely—"the lateral lobes broadly rounded, apparently white and entire." A drawing of the labellum based on the type material, executed in 1908 by M. Smith, clearly shows the toothing of these lobes, as noted in the Rupp-Erikson description. In considering his statement concerning the calli "in about 4 rows" it must be realised that the variability of rows of calli, from 4 to